

REMARKS:

In response to the requirement in the Office Action (mailed August 5, 2004) for an election between the method claims (claims 14-21) and the apparatus claims (claims 1-13), Applicants hereby elect method claims 14-21 for examination, and cancel claims 1-13 without prejudice and with the intention to preserve the option to file a divisional application to pursue canceled claims 1-13.

Respectfully submitted,

GIRARD & EQUITZ LLP

Dated: 8/18/04 By: Alfred A. Equitz  
Alfred A. Equitz  
Reg. No.30,922

Attorneys for Applicant(s)

Attorney Docket No. ASH-1900